quality as per parameters fixed by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The Delhi Jal Board has six modern zonal laboratories, throughout Delhi, to test and monitor the quality of water supplied round the clock. Random samplings are also done daily at consumer end to check incidence of contamination at the consumer's tap. Samples are also got tested from reputed national laboratories. In addition, these reports are compiled and submitted to various health authorities. Delhi Jal Board has stated that the Board is taking every precaution to ensure that the water supplied is wholesome and potable and that no separate legislation is considered necessary in view of its above efforts and effective control on the quality of water.

Pagladiya Dam in Assam

*12. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assam Chief Minister has urged upon the Central Government to constitute an autonomous body for ensuring the timely completion of the multi-purpose Pagladiya Dam project in the State;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by when the proposed autonomous body is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam in his letter dated 2nd August, 2003 to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had mentioned about the delay in implementation of the Pagladiya Dam Project since its clearance in January, 2001 and requested to constitute an autonomous authority for time-bound implementation of the project. The Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources has already replied to the above communication of the Chief Minister. The progress of construction of the project has been delayed due to non-acquisition of land for the dam as well as for resettlement and rehabilitation and handing it over to Brahmaputra Board by the State Government and also due to security-related problems besides change in designs on account of variability of

the location and extent of liquefiable strata, the severity of seismicity and updated probable maximum flood based on additional investigations. The Brahmaputra Board has constituted a Committee headed by Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Revenue Department to examine, recommend and oversee implementation of various works under resettlement and rehabilitation package. Brahmaputra Board has already taken up execution of infrastructural development works in the project site and various resettlement and rehabilitation sites. For monitoring the implementation of the project, a Board Level Project Implementation Authority and Project level Construction and Monitoring Committee have also been constituted. Taking up major works of the project and their completion in time is dependent on handing over of land by the State Government to Brahmaputra Board so as to enable it to complete the project within the stipulated time.

Since the Brahmaputra Board is already a statutory body, which was established under Act of Parliament 1980 (46 of 1980), no separate autonomous authority is contemplated for implementation of Pagladiya Dam Project.

Revision of rates of interest on loans

†*13. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of interest on the loan given to different sectors from time to time during April, 2000 to October, 2003 by Public Sector Banks in the country has been revised;

(b) if so, when these changes have been made together with the details thereof; and

(c) the rates of interest being charged on different kinds of loans given to various sectors by Public Sector Banks during April, 2000 and October, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.